(e) whether any materials left by Mr. Dodwell cannot be made available to research scholars; if so, why?

A.—(a) 1910.

(b) A list of some of these records was made by Mr. Dodwell.

(c) One of the clerks of the office.

(d) Beyond the listing of some of these records, nothing has been done in respect of these records during or after Mr. Dodwell's time.

(e) Yes.

Under the existing rules research scholars can be allowed access to these records.

Appointment of a clerk in the Madras Record office.

* 1165-B Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether an advertisement was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 20th November 1923 by the Deputy Secretary, Finance Department, dated 17th November 1923, calling for applications from Persian and Hindustani knowing men for a clerk's post in the Madras Record office; how many applied for the post and why no appointment was then made; and when the Government propose to fill the vacancy?

A.—Yes.

Eleven candidates applied. No suitable candidate was available. The Government do not intend now to make such an appointment.

Action taken on the report on the working of the Madras Record office.

* 1165-C Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to place on the table the orders on the report of the Special Officer Mr. H. A. B. Vernon, I.C.S., on the working of the Madras Record office?

A.—The Government have not passed orders on the report.

Classification and printing of Persian records in the Madras Record office.

* 1165-D Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of bundles of Persian records preserved in the Madras Record office;

(b) whether the same have been listed or catalogued or sorted;

(c) whether the lists so prepared have been printed or published, and if not, why not; and

(d) what steps have already been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government to classify and print the Persian records and make them available to the research scholars and students?

A.—(a) The Persian records comprise of about 365 bundles of various sizes and about 330 volumes.

(b) A rough list of the contents of these records has been prepared.

(c) & (d) No steps have been taken beyond those mentioned under (b) and the Government do not propose to do anything further for the present.

Limitations on the appointing powers of the Officiating Curator, Madras Record office.

* 1165-E Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what limitations have been imposed upon the exercise of powers of appointment by the Officiating Curator;

(b) whether it is the case in any other branch of the Secretariat or Department of Government, that an officer drawing a salary of Rs. 300 is empowered to appoint staff with salaries ranging from Rs. 40 to Rs. 200; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the desirability of suitably remedying this anomalous position?

A.—(a) None, except the restrictions contained in general rules.

(b) & (c) The pay of the Curator is not Rs. 300; the questions do not arise.

Civil Justice

Expenditure on Judicial administration in the Ganjam district.

* 1166 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the expenditure incurred in the Ganjam district under the head of Judicial administration for each of the years 1926 and 1927?

A.—The Government have no information.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"May I know whether the Government have not got the estimates of expenditure for these years for the civil courts of Ganjam?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes, but it is not given separately for the district of Ganjam."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"May I know whether these estimates of expenditure are not submitted by the district courts either to the Government or to the High Court?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"To the High Court I believe, and not to the Government."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"If so, will they be pleased to call for them?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not think any useful purpose will be served by getting them. So I am sorry I cannot get them."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that there is some enquiry going on in regard to this matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am not aware."